



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

(Attorney Docket No. IPHD.P023)

In the Application of: **Rao et al.**) Group Art Unit: 2876
Serial No: 10/705,739)
Filed: November 8, 2003) Examiner: Trail, Allyson Neel
Title: **Secure System for Electronic**)
Voting)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Dear Sir:

Applicants note the Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance. No inference or conclusion should be drawn that Applicants believe that the Examiner's reasons for allowance are the *only* reasons the claims are patentable. The Examiner's statement appears to focus on certain features contained in the independent claims and not disclosed in the prior art. However, no mention is made with respect to other inventive aspects of the independent claims.¹ Moreover, no mention is made with respect to any of the dependent claims, which include other and/or additional patentable aspects. Thus, Applicants interpret the Examiner's statement to be in no way exhaustive -- whether relative to the independent claims *or* the dependent claims.

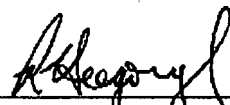
¹ Applicants emphasize that the independent claims are directed to combinations and, for the purposes of this application, it is those combinations that are patentable.



Finally, although Applicants agree with the Examiner's ultimate conclusion that the inventions, as claimed herein, are patentable over the prior art, there are many inventions described and illustrated in the above-referenced application that are not claimed herein. Indeed, those inventions may or may not include one, some or all of the features the Examiner indicates are not disclosed in the prior art.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: May 15, 2007


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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION VIA FACSIMILE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile on **May 15, 2007** to **Mail Stop Issue Fee**, at (571) 273-2885 and addressed to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Richard L. Gregory, Jr.

(Typed or printed name of person mailing paper(s) or fee(s))

Richard L. Gregory, Jr.

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May 15, 2007

(Date signed)

Serial/Patent No.: 10/705,739 Filing/Issue Date: November 8, 2003
 Title: Secure System For Electronic Voting
 Atty. Docket No.: JPID.P023 Date Transmitted: May 15, 2007

The following has been received in the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office on the date stamped hereon:

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Response (_ pgs.) | <input type="checkbox"/> Petition for Extension of Time (_ month(s)) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Preliminary Amendment (_ pgs.) | <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement & PTO/SB/08A |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Application - Utility (_ pgs.) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Issue Fee Transmittal |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Application - Rule 1.53(b) Contin. (_ pgs.) | <input type="checkbox"/> Submission of Formal Drawings |
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